

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 11108 162312Z

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ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1874

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR/MEX

SUBJ: OPERATION TRIZO (GF-TA-75-8001)

REF: ALBERTI/DUGSTAD TELCON DECEMBER 16, 1975.

S/NM FOR VANCE; SER/INC FOR WAMPLER; DEA EOI CUSACK

1. DR. GERTZ HAS JUST RETURNED FROM AN INSPECTION TRIP TO THE TRI-STATE AREA OF SINALOA, DURANGO AND CHIHUAHUA. HE ADVISED DRD HEATH THAT ALTHOUGH THE CAMPAIGN IS PROGRESSING WITH SOME HIGH DEGREE OF SUCCESS, THAT THERE ARE SOME SERIOUS PROBLEMS.

A. HE CAN NOT ORDER THE MILITARY THE WAY HE WOULD LIKE. THAT WHEN THE MEXICAN SOLDIERS ARE WORKING WITH CIVILIAN PERSONNEL, THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FRICTIONS AND PROBLEMS AND THEREFORE LACK OF CONTROL.

B. THAT THE MILITARY IS EXPECTING DR. GERTZ TO SUPPLY FOOD AND OTHER NECESSITIES FOR THE SOLDIERS IN THE FIELD, AND HE DOES NOT HAVE THE FUNDS TO COVER THIS EXPENDITURE.

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 11108 162312Z

CONSEQUENTLY, A REDUCED NUMBER OF SOLDIERS ARE COMMITTED

TO THE CAMPAIGN. IN OTHER WORDS, IF THE AG'S OFFICE WERE WILLING TO PAY FOR THE TOTAL EXPENSE TO UPKEEP THE SOLDIERS IN THE FIELD, THE MILITARY WOULD BE WILLING TO COMMIT AN UNDETERMINED AMOUNT OF TROOPS FOR THE CAMPAIGN.

C. DR. GERTZ IS FULLY CONVINCED THAT ALL RESOURCES SHOULD BE UTILIZED AND WILL ACCEPT WHATEVER NUMBER OF SOLDIERS THE MILITARY WILL OFFER DESPITE THE NUMBER OF PROBLEMS IT WOULD ENTAIL IN GETTING ALONG WITH THE MILITARY. HOWEVER, THE ANSWER TO THIS PROGRAM IS HERBICIDES. DR. GERTZ WANTS TO EQUIP ALL BELL 206 HELICOPTERS WITH THE SIMPLEX SPRAY SYSTEM.

D. DR. GERTZ STATED THAT ALTHOUGH ERADICATION FIGURES CONTINUE TO MOUNT, HE IS NOT AT ALL SATISFIED WITH THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS; BECAUSE OF LACK OF NECESSARY PERSONNEL AND HELICOPTERS TO FERRY THE SOLDIERS TO THE TARGET AREAS HUNDREDS OF OPIUM FIELDS ARE BEING BY-PASSED.

E. DR. GERTZ IS FRUSTRATED FROM WHAT HE BELIEVES IS LESS THAN A TOTAL COMMITMENT TO THIS PROBLEM. HE IS DETERMINED TO ELIMINATE THE OPIUM PRODUCTION AT LEAST AT THE COMMERCIAL LEVEL BUT IS FACED WITH BUROCRATIC PROBLEMS SUCH AS THE SENSITIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE AG'S OFFICE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, NOT ACCEPTING THE ASSISTANCE FROM THE USG TO SUPPLY THE MILITARY; THE LACK OF MONETARY ASSISTANCE TO THE AG'S OFFICE TO PAY HELICOPTER PILOTS A COMPARABLE SALARY WITH PRIVATE INDUSTRY, THEREFORE DR. GERTZ BELIEVES THAT HE HAS INFERIOR PILOTS AND MECHANICS DESPITE THE TRAINING THEY HAVE RECEIVED.

F. DR. GERTZ HAS NO CONFIDENCE IN THE MOPS SYSTEM. THUS FAR THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN POOR AND HE WOULD LIKE TO CONTRACT A PRIVATE CONCERN USING LEAR JETS PHOTOGRAPHING AT ALTITUDES OF 19,000 TO 20,000 FEET.

G. DR. GERTZ BELIEVES THAT THE NUMBER OF FIXED WING AIRCRAFT THEY HAVE IS NOT SUITABLE TO CONDUCT RECON MISSIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 MEXICO 11108 162312Z

AS REQUIRED FIRST OF ALL FOR LOCATION AND SECONDLY FOR VERIFICATION OF DESTRUCTION. ALSO THAT THESE TYPE OF AIRCRAFT ARE COMPETELY INADEQUATE TO CONDUCT ANY AIR INTERDICTION PROGRAM. IF AIRCRAFT WILL NOT BE SUPPLIED BY THE USG, THEN HE WOULD LIKE DEA AIRCRAFT TO ASSIST.

2. DR. GERTZ WILL BE DISCUSSING THESE MATTERS WITH THE AG. HE WILL ASK FOR MORE MONETARY ASSISTANCE EITHER FROM THE

GOM OR FROM THE USG. HE INTENDS TO ADVISE THE AG THAT THE ERADICATION IS GOING MUCH TOO SLOW FOR LACK OF MAN-POWER AND EQUIPMENT. ALSO, THAT HE WILL UTILIZE WHATEVER EQUIPMENT IS AVAILABLE TO SPRAY BUT NEEDS MORE EQUIPMENT. DR. GERTZ STATED THAT HE ALSO INTENDS TO ADVISE THE AG OF THE ASSISTANCE THAT DEA IS SUPPLYING TO HIS PERSONNEL ON THE FIELD WHICH IS VITALLY IMPORTANT. (THIS ASSISTANCE ARE THE FUNDS FURNISHED BY CCINC.)

3. DR. GERTZ STATED THAT HE WOULD ADVISE THE AG THAT HE COULD HAVE A VERY SUCCESSFUL PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN BUT THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO BE TRUTHFUL TO HIMSELF AND HE WANTS IN REALITY A SUCCESSFUL DESTRUCTION CAMPAIGN WHICH WOULD REDUCE THE HEROIN IN THE UNITED STATES. HE ALSO STATED THAT WHATEVER MONETARY ASSISTANCE COULD BE SUPPLIED TO THIS CAMPAIGN BY THE USG SHOULD BE DONE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE DISREGARDING THE OFFICIAL "RED TAPE" OF BI-LATERAL MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES BECAUSE THERE IS SIMPLY NO TIME.

4. DR. GERTZ STATED THAT HE WOULD ADVISE DRD HEATH OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH THE AG AND BASED ON THAT A MEETING COULD BE HELD TO OUTLINE WHATEVER ASSISTANCE IS IMMEDIATELY NECESSARY.

5. AS REPORTED IN REF TELCON ON DECEMBER 16, NARC COORDINATOR ALBERTI HAD PHONE CONVERSATION WITH DR. GERTZ CONCERNING PRESS PUBLICITY ASPECTS OF THE CAMPAIGN. DR. GERTZ USED THAT OPPORTUNITY TO REPEAT SAME POINTS COVERED IN ABOVE PARAGRAPHS. HE EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO EQUIP ALL BELL 206 HELICOPTERS WITH SPRAY APPARATUS AND ALSO MENTIONED HIS DESIRE TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF USING JETS FOR AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC RELIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 MEXICO 11108 162312Z

CONNAISSANCE. AS NOTED IN PARAGRAPH 4 ABOVE, HE SAID HE WOULD BE DISCUSSING THESE QUESTIONS WITH THE AG AND WOULD CALL US THIS WEEK TO SET UP A MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.  
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